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40. (New) A method of aerosolizing a liquid, comprising the steps of:  
electroforming an aperture plate made of palladium or a palladium alloy,  
the aperture plate having a front surface and a rear surface, the palladium or palladium  
alloy aperture plate being electroformed to form a plurality of tapered apertures extending  
from the rear surface to the front surface;  
providing a fluid at the rear surface of the aperture plate; and  
vibrating the aperture plate to eject the fluid through the plurality of  
tapered apertures.

41. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the electroforming step is  
carried out with the aperture plate being palladium cobalt.

42. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the electroforming step is  
carried out with the aperture plate being palladium nickel.

43. (New) The method of claim 40, wherein the electroforming step is  
carried out with the aperture plate being about 80% palladium and about 20% nickel.

REMARKS

This application is a continued prosecution application ("CPA") of Appl.  
No. 09/551,408, filed April 18, 2000. Claims 40 – 43 are pending in this application.  
Claims 32 – 39 have been canceled without prejudice.

Canceled Claims 32 – 39 were rejected over U.S. Pat. No. 5,586,550  
("Ivri") in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,037,587 ("Dowell") and U.S. Pat. No. 6,145,963  
("Pidwerbecki"). The following is a discussion of the patentability of new Claims 40 –